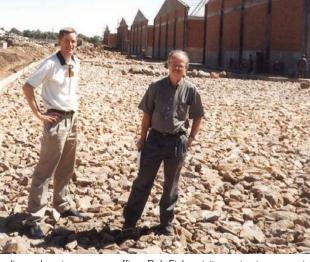
Plain & Valley

Covering Southeast Saskatchewan and Southwest Manitoba

November 2020 • Page 25





Jim Cornelius

Jim and senior program officer Rob Finlay visit a grain storage project

A lasting legacy of working together to end global hunger: Farewell to Jim Cornelius

"I remember the room where we interviewed Jim. It was a horrible room. There weren't any windows—it was one of those dreadful closed rooms," says Rick Fee, who represented Presbyterian World Service & Development (PWS&D) on the board of directors when Jim Cornelius was hired. "But the interview went well, and we all came out of the meeting thinking 'Yes.' "

"We've been blessed with Jim's leadership, faithful service and expertise. He has played a key role in the maturing of the Foodgrains Bank, a uniquely Canadian church-based organization that's now one of Canada's leading international emergency food orga-

Jim began his role as executive director of the Foodgrains Bank on February 1, 1997. By that time, Canadian Foodgrains Bank had been around for 14 years nadian Foodgrains Bank had been around for 14 years and was established as a credible network of Canadian churches working together to help families facing hunger in developing countries. Yet there was still room to grow, and the funding relationship with the Government of Canada needed to be carefully managed.

"There was a lot to consider in those days," says Rick. "We were looking to expand our membership and ensure

our partnership with CIDA-now Global Affairs Cana--continued as we remained true to our values.

Foodgrains Bank members were also looking to support more long-term development work in addition to the existing emergency food aid and food-for-work programs.

Jim embraced these opportunities, working diligently

and deliberately from the very beginning.

"Jim comes across as a humble fellow. He fits in, is a

keen observer and is very good at analyzing papers ranging from government documents to reports on the food market in Canada," says Rick.

A record that speaks for itself

Jim joined the network after working for many years as a consultant on food aid and development and managing a large Canadian government project in East Africa. He has led the organization with unrelenting passion and expertise. Jim played a key role in many achievements,

- Maintaining a strong funding relationship with the Government of Canada.
- Government of Canada.
 Growing the membership of the Foodgrains Bank to include most of the main Christian churches in Canada.
- Ensuring the Foodgrains Bank is well-positioned to respond quickly and effectively to food crises as they

- Persuading the Canadian government to permit food aid to be purchased from local or regional sources to improve efficiency.
 Expanding efforts to find long-term solutions to hun-
- er.

 Leading the network to the milestone of providing

 Leading the network to the milestone of millions of \$1 billion of food-related assistance for tens of millions of people in over 70 countries.

"There's no other organization in Canada that does what the Foodgrains Bank does. It's an example of Chriswhat the rootgaals balm toos. It is an example of Chis-tians working together, and Jim was a major part of this period of history. His work was faith in action, and with-out making it a clické, he showed what Christians should be doing in the world," adds Rick.

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40, NIV

Twenty-three years after Jim began as executive director, his legacy and commitment to ending global hunger continues to inspire Foodgrains Bank staff, board directors, members and Canadians alike. He's highly regarded in Canada's humanitarian and development sector and was awarded the Lewis Perinbam Innovation and Impact Award in February 2020 for his work leading innovative approaches to ending global hunger.

Continued on page 30 ™



Saskatchewan Election 2020

Melville-Saltcoats re-elects Warren Kaeding

BY ROB PAUL
LOCAL JOURNALISM

LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER
In 2016, Warren Kaeding took over from Bob
Bjornerud—MILA from
2003 to 2016—as MLA for
Melville-Saltcoats with
over 70 per cent of the
vote. Kaeding once again
received over 70 per cent
of the vote as he was reelected in the provincial
election on October 26.
Although Kaeding was

Although Kaeding was running for re-election and coming off a divisive victory in 2016, he says you never know you'll be back in for sure until the ballots are counted.

"Probably the first emotion is relief because the election results are hopefully an indication of how well you've done your work and done your job in the constituency," said Kaeding. "You never know until the election, you just don't know how well you're being recognized. You're certainly able to get completion for some of the issues out there, but you're never able to get results that satisfy everyone and you just never know until the election. Honestly with Covid I just couldn't get to the doors like I normally would, I was reluctant to go to every door like you normally would during an election. So many times

with door knocking that's the opportunity people wait to have a conversation with their MLA at the door."

Having the opportunity to represent Melville-Saltcoats for a second term means a lot to Kaeding because being re-elected confirms he's doing right by the constituents and getting the things done that matter most to them.

"I truly feel honoured that they have that much faith in me and for believing that I have the ability to represent them," he said. "It's certainly an honour to be able to represent them and to do it for a second time. There's a lot of responsibility that comes with that kind of result so I certainly hope we can live up to their expectations again."

The 2020 election wasn't normal due to the impact of Covid-19 and Kaeding says the pandemic completely changed the way he went about campaigning with no gatherings to speak at or door knocking and having to embrace a more social media centric campaign.

"Certainly there were big differences this year," he said. "With Covid-19 I wasn't able to take as active of a door knocking campaign as I would have



Melville-Saltcoats re-elected Warren Kaeding for a second-term with over 70 per cent of the vote.

liked to. We ended up kind of being in an outbreak area with the area around Yorkton—Melville, Esterhazy, Churchbridge, Saltcoats. That's a significant part of the constituency, so I was very reluctant to do an aggressive door knocking campaign just because I felt uncomfortable being at everybody's door when everyone was kind of nervous with the increased awareness of what's going

on out there with Covid. So I did some things on social media, more mail drops than we normally would, and things like that. It did change the way we were trying to connect with the constituents."

The next step in the process will be waiting to see the election results in the constituencies where vote by mail ballots will be the difference—that will be finalized November 7—while the short term for

Kaeding and his team will be focused on cleaning up the campaign and getting back to the constituency office.

"I just had a conversation with some folks and they indicated that maybe one riding would be confirmed this afternoon and a couple more might be tonight," he said. "They'll carry on with ballot counting in coming days as there's still a number of constituencies up in the air with a lot of ballots to count. The vote by mail ballots this year were tenfold what normally would have happened with mail in ballots in an election.

"We have to clean up the loose ends around the campaign, everything from getting our expenses in to cleaning up the signs that were put out there to rapping up the campaign and cleaning up our campaign office," he said. "Then it's just about getting back in the saddle for us that are incumbent with opening up the office again and opening it up to constitu-

With the fourth straight majority government formed in Saskatchewan by the Sask Party, Kaeding believes that goes to show how much the province trusts the direction of Premier Scott Moe and his government.

government. "What I believe it means that the Sask Party has formed its fourth straight majority is that the majority of the province believes we're on the right path," he said. "We as a government are able to provide that steady hand of guidance that I think people are looking for to get through the pandemic as well as to guide the economy back to where it was before and even to diversify it. Diversifying the economy was something we were certainly looking at before the pandemic started and we're still looking at it. I think with this kind of result it shows that we're on the right path and the majority of people in the province are pretty comfortable with that direction that

we're going."

In his previous term as MLA, Kaeding served as MLA, Kaeding served as Minister Responsible for Rural and Remote Health and Minister Responsible for Seniors, he says in his second term he's open to any role Premier Scot Moe sees fit for him.

"My role going forward is the call of the premier," he said. "I'd certainly be willing to take any role that Scott Moe wants to bestow on me. There's a lot of tremendous people that are there in caucus that could easily fill any role and we will do what is asked of "Is"."







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Website shares ag and food research

The Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences recently launched the Manitoba Agriculture and Food Knowledge Exchange website, a resource which shares current research by Faculty scientists and their collaborators.

The site is aimed at a variety of audiences, from con-

sumers to farmers and agri-food processors.

"The MAKE site has been designed to share knowledge

generated through research done in the Faculty in an engaging and understandable way," said Dr. Annemieke Farenhorst, associate dean (research).
"We see the site as serving as a critical link connecting those who are interested in learning more about our food systems with those conducting research in these areas.

MAKE will help us bring outcomes from the lab to consumers' kitchens and to farmers' fields and barns."

The site profiles current research programs shared as articles and podcast interviews with Faculty scientists and other research collaborators in the community.

Future resources planned include videos as well as a variety of printable downloads including recipe cards, infographics and factsheets. Coming soon is a dedicated resources section for those working in agriculture and agri-food.

Manitoba Agriculture and Food Knowledge Exchange

Contact Plain & Valley at 306-435-2445 or email world spectator@sasktel.net New content will be added regularly, so visitors are encouraged to bookmark and visit often.



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23	Monday	Butcher Sale	9 a.m.		
25	Wednesday	Presort Feeder Sale	10 a.m.		
27	Friday	Bred Cow Sale	11:30 a.m.		
30	Monday	Butcher Sale	9 a.m.		
;====					

- DECEMBER 2020 -

DECEMBER 2020					
2	Wednesday	Regular Feeder Sale	9 a.m.		
4	Friday	Bred Cow Sale	11:30 a.m.		
7	Monday	Butcher Sale	9 a.m.		
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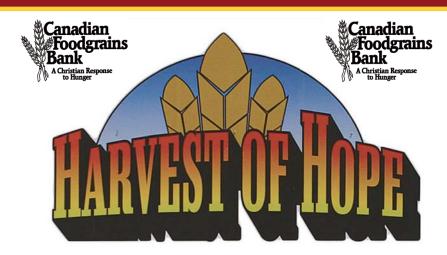
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THANK YOU SPONSORS SO FAR WE RAISED over \$400,000 TO FEED HUNGRY PEOPLE

It is from a position of humble gratitude that I write this.

There is a saying that goes 'When you have more than you need, build a longer table, not a taller fence'. That's what the Harvest of Hope is all about, and on behalf of the organizing committee I would like to both say Thank You to and publicly acknowledge the many friends and sponsors who have help the HoH through what is now its

There are almost 690 million people in the world experience hunger, nearly 98% of people experiencing hunger live in developing countries, and approximately 80% of displaced people live in countries affected by long-term hunger. Our goal is to put a dent in these numbers through building a longer table; one that reaches here from Moosomin all the way to places like the Congo, the Sudan, Lebanon, or Syria where there are people in significant need.

I would like to start by acknowledging everyone who has supported the project for demonstrating such incredible generosity, giving their energy, time, talents, resources and hospitality. I'd also like to acknowledge all of our sponsors for their demonstrations of care, compassion, and incredible community spirit. It is truly humbling to see people and local businesses working together for the benefit of people who they will likely never meet, showing them that they matter, they are not alone, and are welcome at our table.

Thank you to the local farmers and Ag Equipment dealers who continue to work on the field, donate seat-time, equipment, and other inputs to help get things seeded, sprayed, or harvested – and a special thanks to those who even put a pause on their own livelihoods to make it happen, taking a break from their own fields in these busy seasons. Farmers grow food and we couldn't do this without you.

Thank you to the local businesses and community leaders who help out in other ways, donating what you can. To our local Ag leaders, your help in supplying or donating inputs like seed, fertilizer, land rent, fuel, and money to help cover other expenses helps increase our project's impact. Every dollar of profit can be leveraged up to 4:1 through matching by agreements with the Federal Government. That means for a donation of \$100 to the HoH, up to \$500 can be sent to help address food security needs in the developing world. To our other community supporters, thank you for helping us promote and advertise this great cause, support our events with coffee (thank you Tim Hortons) and meals (thank you TJs Pizza) for those coming to work on the field at harvest (even in light of challenging Covid-19 restrictions). And lastly, thank you to the World-Spectator for your continued coverage of the project and for allowing us to use your platform to express our gratitude to those who have helped us so far.

There is another saying that goes 'many hands make light work' and the HoH would not be possible without any of these amazing contributors. Over the past 7 years, we've raised over \$400,000 together and we are forever grateful for the impact you've helped make in the fight against world hunger by building a longer table.

Respectfully submitted;

Kyle Penner, on behalf of the Harvest of Hope Organizing Committee HarvestofHope.moosomin@outlook.com









































Cleon Graham



McCarthy



Alistair Pethick

Scenes from Harvest of Hope over the years

2017







2018











2020









Farewell to Foodgrains Bank's Jim Cornelius

™ Continued from page 25

"We've been blessed with Jim's leadership, faithful service and expertise," says current board chair Ken Kim. "He has played a key role in the maturing of the Foodgrains Bank, a uniquely Canadian church-based organization that's now one of Canada's leading international emergency food organizations."

every decision made is made to increase the access to food for families in developing countries," says Marion. "He's wholeheartedly answered the call of Jesus to feed the hungry. He's inspired and encouraged others to answer that call, and when it's all said and done, fewer families will face hunger thanks to his leadership of this special

Jim has led the Foodgrains Bank through multiple global food crises, from the North Korea famine in the late 90s to the Syrian refugee crisis and now increased hunger due to COVID-19.

"The board has a great appreciation for Jim's commitment and dedication to the values of the Foodgrains Bank and his ability to communicate those values honestly and without equivocation," adds Ken. "A genuine and humble Christian, Jim has demonstrated that churches working with Canadian farmers, the public and government can demonstrably make a difference in the lives of hungry people around the world."

Film embraced Foodgrains Bank supporters wholeheartedly, says Marion Ausmus, a Saskatchewan grain farmer and current board member. "When we met Jim, he was so humble and down to earth. And he was keenly interested in all the 'farm talk.' I remember thinking that we have something to give and this is an organization I want to be associated with. Jim treated every one of us with respect and dignity, and I have seen him treat 'the least of these' with the same respect and dignity."

of these with the same respect and dignity."
What is perhaps the most telltale sign of Jim's legacy is the number of families who have been able to access more food with support from Foodgrains Bank members and their partners. Jim has led the Foodgrains Bank through multiple global food crises, from the North Korea famine in the late 90s to the Syrian refugee crisis and now increased hunger due to COVID-19.

"Jim has ensured that

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Visit us online at www. plainandvalley .com network."

"Jim has left the Foodgrains Bank well-positioned to continue responding to hunger needs around the world," adds Ken. "His legacy will live on for years."



Photo by Amanda Thorsteinsso

Foodgrains Bank members have been responding to severe hunger caused by conflict in South Sudan for many years. In 2014, Jim met with families in the country who were receiving support through the Foodgrains Bank, including Victoria Loki and her baby Cecilia.



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Saskatchewan Electi**o**'n 2020

Bonk re-elected with 78 per cent in Moosomin

When the votes were counted the night of the provincial election, Mooso-min MLA Steven Bonk was re-elected min MLA Steven Bonk was re-elected with 5,191 votes or 78 per cent of the votes in the Moosomin riding. Editor Kevin Weedmark spoke to Bonk on election night. The interview follows:

Did you have internal polling leading up to tonight that was making you pretty confident? What were your thoughts leading up to the election the last few days?

We were pretty confident in our numbers and our numbers played out fairly close to what we're seeing tonight. Actually almost identical, the were feeling comfortable and we were feeling comfortable but not complacent. As you can see, all of the candidates worked hard and did a great job.

How does it feel to be a part of a government that is popular enough that you're back in for a forth consecutive majority govern-

Saskatchewan people, in particu-lar in Moosomin constituency, are just practical, pragmatic down to earth, hardworking people. They want the government to be there to make sure that their health and wellbeing is protected, that they have the essential services, and other than that they don't want that that they don't want the government involved in their life very much. They are just good salt-of-the-earth people. The message of the Sask Party seems to really resonate with them. Minimal government intrusion in their day to day lives, yet we're there when they need them and that seems to be a formula for success that we've been using now since 2007. It seems to really resonate.

What is different about the Sask Party that they have been able to maintain such strong support, with 62 percent of the vote in the fourth election?

I think what you see with the Sask Party is that we don't forget who put us in office. We maintain close contact with our convery close contact with our constituents to understand their concerns. One of the things Brad Wall and Scott Moe have always said is we have to be humble. We have to understand we're there to serve the people—it's not the other way around—and that is something that I think has allowed us to gain the trust of the people of this province.

Now that your party is in with such a large mandate again, do you expect anything to be different in this next term?

I hope not because I think we ac-complished a lot of good things in the last three terms and I hope we can continue with it. We accomplished a lot but there is a lot of plished a lot but there is a lot of work left to do. As you can see the path that we've charted is some-thing that the people of Saskatch-ewan have put their name behind by voting for us, so I think that they want us to follow through with the direction and the vision that we have for the province.

How different did Covid-19 make this election for you? Were you still travelling town to town to meet people or how did you approach this election campaign?

Covid-19 did make this an un-

usual campaign. I didn't do much door knocking at all is this cam-paign. I wasn't sure what people would think of someone showing up at their doorstep with a mask



Steven Bonk

and PPE, but what I did is I went in different towns and went for coffee went to visit, made sure that people saw that I was out and about, and in fact to be honest with you we spent some time in the city helping out our colleagues who are in much closer races just to make sure that they had a better chance and more resources at their disposal.

What do you hope to see from your party in this next term?

I think what we have to do first and foremost is deal with the effects of the global pandemic, the economic recovery. That is going to take some time and a lot of effort to get it right and to be effective. I think that is the immignent concern. think that is the imminent concern. We always do have challenges in the health care system in rural Sas-katchewan, in all of Saskatchewan. I think that is something that we need to address and to put a re-newed focus on, and I think that

making sure that we continue with our Municipal Economic Enhancement Program where we provide infrastructure dollars to local mu-nicipalities is important. I think that has been a very, very needed and a very well appreciated pro-gram from the government.

When you were meeting with people in different communities, what seemed to be on people's minds? What seemed to be the main concerns?

The main concerns were about the economic recovery of the pandemic. We've actually fared very well in Moosomin constituency compared to most other places. We haven't been affected that much to be honest, but there are some people that it's affected greatly and we have to be mindful of that and make sure that we offer support and programs to people whose livelihoods have been affected by Covid-19. We have to be careful though, because every time the government propos-The main concerns were about every time the government proposes a program or stimulus of some kind, there are always unforeseen consequences so the trick of this will be to navigate that successfully

In a case like yours where you are the favorite, is there still some sort of nervousness when the election comes up or is it just 'we

know we've got this?

It is an unusual job to have and I think if people really stopped and thought about it, if you had to reapply for your job every four years, even if you felt you were doing a good job and people seemed to be happy with the job you were doing, you just arbitrarily had to re-apply for your job every four years with-out the certainty of getting hired

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back, it is an unusual situation and it's humbling. It makes you stop and really think about who puts you there. But even in a constitu-ency like Moosomin where you know that we're amongst mainly like-minded people, there is still a bit of nerves involved because until you see those results you don't really know your fate.

What do you hope to contribute to the government this next term? I've always had a focus or pas-sion for international trade. Comsion for international trade: Coming from Moosomin Constituency, which I think probably best embodies the economy of Saskatchewan with oil and potash and manufacturing and agriculture, I hope that I can contribute in some way to telling the Saskatchewan story, because Saskatchewan has what the world wants and needs and I think we can do much better even though we've come so far in our international relations with other countries, and we're now trading with over 150 different countries in the world, but I think there is just so

much more we can do.

And if I'm called upon to help in that regard, I'm more than willing to, and I think that is an area of great importance for our province and particularly for our constitu-

Congratulations on your win. I would just like to congratulate the other candidates who put their names forward in the constituency because I do understand what's involved in putting your name forward. I do appreciate the honorable campaigns everyone ran and I wish them all the best.



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Grain farmers shouldn't shy away from benchmarking

By Peter Manness, MNP Whenever I bring up bench-marking with grain farm clients, I generally get two reactions. The first is from a group of producers that immediately buy into the idea and want to know how they compare to other farms. The other group either think they are al-ready equal to their neighbors or

ready equal to their neignors of they don't want to find out. Most farmers will spend all day and night talking, reading, and even tweeting about farm-ing to anyone and everyone, but they are also fiercely independent business people and don't like to talk about the financial health of their business. The usefulness of a benchmark is not as much a ranking tool as it is a method to help evaluate and direct business decisions. I like to break it down into three main areas: Profit, Trend and Focus.

1. Profit: I don't like to say it's all about the money, but in business it is generally a good place to start. Whenever I look at a financial statement. I always start at the bottom of the income statement with the profit line. A benchmark can take out the markets, weath-er and size and show the impact of effort and management on a of effort and management on a per unit basis (per acre for grain farms). Are we generating a rea-sonable profit for the size of our operation on a per unit basis. If not, why? And secondly, does it matter? The only two things we must give are time and money. If our efforts do not generate a re-turn, then over the long run, are we making good use of our time? It is okay to give up some profits to devote your time elsewhere, but how can we make an in-formed decision if we don't know

what we are giving up? There is often a concern among producers that one region is way more profitable than other regions



and farms can't be compared across broad geographical areas. In our Manitoba region, our most recent grain benchmark numbers recent grain benchmark numbers showed that the top 15 producers were spread over 10 crop insurance risk areas, indicating to me strong management is just as, if not more valuable, than good land.

2. Trend: What trend you are on is just as important as where you are. This is one of the greatest benefits of using benchmark data versus historical averages or tar-gets. In Western Canada, producers have maintained profits by not only expanding acres but by continually pushing yields higher.

The current trend is adding 1 bu per acre per year in wheat yield and over ½ bu per acre in Canola. We obviously know that costs are rising along with the increase in yield. If we understand how our trend compares to the benchmark trend, it helps us to see if we are keeping up on a revenue basis and managing our costs. A five-year historical average on machinery costs is useful but you can't buy a new combine for the same price as in 2013. This needs to be taken into combine for the same price.

as in 2013. This needs to be taken into consideration.

Trend also gives us hope if some costs are out of line. If we can hold them in the short term, it may bring us back into line with the benchmark over time

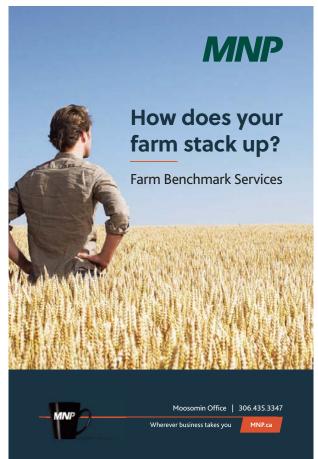
3. Focus: Focus is the final piece after you understand how you compare from a profit standpoint and the trend you are on. A farm financial statement is full of numbers and it is easy to get caught up focusing on something that isn't important. If you aren't hitting the profit target, then you can go back to see where the problem might be. Are we short on revenue? Do we spend too much on inputs versus what we get in return? Is it costing us too much in operat-ing costs or overhead? It might not lead to an easy solution, but at minimum it will give you more certainty in how you deploy your

management skills. If you are one of the most profitable producers, does it change your perspective

on how you approach growth? Farmers are all trying to play the same game but ultimately no two farms or farmers are exactly alike. By utilizing benchmark information, you can see what things make your farm successful, how you can continue to achieve that in the future and what areas to focus on to make it happen.

Peter Manness, PAg, is a Business Advisor in MNP's Farm Management Consulting group. He can be reached at 204.727.0661 or peter. manness@mnn.ca

NEW





Father Franklin Emereuwa comes to Moosomin

"He (Dan Bohan) had been to Nigeria. He said he came to Nigeria and he loved it, he loved the people and how he was received and he loved the way he saw the church and other things. He asked me if I would like to come and other things. He asked me if I would like to come over to Canada and help in Saskatchewan? I said if you can talk with my home bishop and if he permits me, I would like to. So, that started the process. I had to apply through my own bishop and he had to call me and say they are requesting that you come and help in Canada, would you be interested to go? I said if you permit me to go, so he said okay," said Emereuwa.

Nigeria is a tropical country and enjoys only two seasons, namely the wet season and the dry season. The difference in temperature between these two seasons is

difference in temperature between these two seasons is usually around two degrees. The lowest temperature ever recorded in Nigeria was 2.8 C.

On November 29, 2012, the day that Emereuwa landed

on November 29, 2012, the day that Emereture landed in Saskatchewan, the temperature in Regina was -12 C. "That was the first time I experienced snow. I had to call my mom and say something is happening here, I see some white things fall from the skies. That was one of the worst winters I had ever experienced since coming to Canada," said Emereuwa.

His first posting was in Mankota, Saskatchewan.

"It is cowboy country I was there till 2014. Then I was posted to Canora and I stayed there until I came to Moosomin " said Emereuwa

His time spent in towns across Saskatchewan so far had

First time spent in towns across Saskatchewan so far had been time spent bringing people together.

"It was big fun where I was in Kamsack. It is just a beautiful community, I had lots of friends. All through summer, we used to play soccer. All kinds of people came and played. Older people, young people the youth, of course, and sometimes ladies would join us. Over the years, some ministers from other churches would come out to join us, as it turns the fort. It was that the latter that have to be some times that the second transfer of the second so it was big fun. I miss that a lot. I would love to have something like that here in Moosomin," said Emereuwa.

Moosomin

Having spent over a decade working in Nigeria, and then coming to the Canadian prairies, Emereuwa has noticed a few differences between the two places.

"The big difference is in numbers and in activities. The Catholic church in Nigeria is usually the hub of activities. They have evening and morning spiritual programs, they have retreats and crusades. When you go to Nigeria

you see life and numbers. You can't believe the number of people that you see. In Nigeria they have huge churches and they are always full," said Emereuwa.

With a current estimated population of over 200 million people, Nigeria has almost 175 times more people than Saskatchewan. However, what the prairies lack in numbers, they make up for with organization and anonymous charity.

"I think there is more organization here when it comes to administration than down there (Nigeria). There are lots of people who do charity work, we do it in Nigeria too, but here it is a lot more organized. Here you also get people who just do things but they want to remain anonymous. A lot of people are working behind the scenes to make things happen. When it comes to maintenance of the church there are people who donate and no one even knows. It happens everywhere, but people prefer to be anonymous here. They like to help and they love to share," said Emereuwa.

COVID-19

Emereuwa's arrival in Moosomin happened during the

Emereuwa's arrival in Moosomin happened during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"In the midst of this pandemic we are trying to figure out how we are going to move forward while keeping within the rules. We are getting updates from Health Saskatchewan. Whatever comes from the Archdiocese will inform us of what steps to take next. Already in our churches we have social distancing and other regulations so, I think it is not a problem, but we wait to hear from Archdiocese," said Emereuwa.

Emereuwa speaks about how the disruptions caused by

this virus has put everyone on the same plane.

"The challenge for the church is not any different from "The challenge for the church is not any different from that of the society at large. People can not get together as they used to and that is impeding a lot of things. When you come together, you can discuss a way forward. But now people are scared to come out. Now some have pre-existing conditions and they don't want to be exposed to danger and you would not want to expose them to that kind of danger. So, because of that a lot of things are on beld "exil Empreyus"

hold," said Emereuwa.

He explains that these strange times have given people plenty of time to do some reassessing of what is truly im-

'Sometimes we think that we are in control and we are always on the move. Now we have to sit down and think

ally teaching us a lot. It has been unfortunate for some families who can not be together, but some couples really have not had time to sit down and talk. I think that this is nave not nad time to sit down and talk. I think that this is one of the opportunities. I try to see the positives in every-thing. We used to think that our technologies are over the top and that no matter what comes, we will know how to handle it. This virus is defying our imaginations. Not even the doctors know what to do, the scientists are as confused as everyone else. It is a time for us to think back and readdress some of our steps and to know that God has the final say" said Emereuwa. He calls on the Bible for an example of how things are changing today.

"Society was moving at such a supersonic speed that we forgot everything about God. Man became the measure of all things. I try to compare what is happening now to the story of Babel. When people thought they could do it without God.

Then God confused their language so they could not understand each other. The world had moved in such a way that people all thought that everything depends on them. I think that is one of the positive things about the way that people an intogen that everything depends on them. I think that is one of the positive things about the COVID-19 pandemic, we can sit back and know that we don't have it all. We can once again appreciate our families. So many people didn't even know what they had in their families. Now you can not even shake people's hands, you didn't know that, that was a privilege before. People could not come together for Thanksgiving, this was taken for granted. Nobody imagined that there would be a time that you would be watching your family through a screen. The opportunities we had to be with one another, this is the time to appreciate it. Because we don't have it now. So, now we know that we have the greatest gift in one another. If we can be with one another we have to appreciate that. It forced us to appreciate one another, the company of one another," said Emereuwa. Emereuwa encourages people to not just focus on the negative in these strange times.

"The message I would like to give in this pandemic is for people to be strong. This shall come to pass as well. Some people are freaking out, yes. Inasmuch as we need to be careful, but this shall come to pass. If we have suried from Moreh or Echeracy fill pow the Cod thet did

to be careful, but this shall come to pass. If we have survived from March or February till now, the God that did it will also see us through to the end of this pandemic. w\ We don't know how long it might take but definitely, it will come to pass," said Emereuwa.

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Saskatchewan Election 2020

Daryl Harrison elected MLA for Cannington

BY ROB PAUL
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Cannington has a new MLA for the first time since 1991. With over 70 per cent of the vote, Sask Party candidate Daryl Harrison has been elected as the next MLA for Cannington. Harrison takes over for Dan D'Autremont who had served as the areas MLA since 1991.

Harrison is excited and thankful for the support he got throughout the campaign and into the election with his decisive victory.

"It feels great," said Harrison. "I just can't say thank you enough to the campaign workers, they worked tirelessly from puting up signs to phoning to running all over. It takes a team to win and I can't say enough thanks for their help.

"I also need to thank the voters of Cannington, it's kind of overwhelming to receive that kind of support. I do know there's still people out there that I haven't met and I have to work hard in the coming weeks and months to get out and about in the communities and see as many people as I can. The campaign's done, but the work has just started."

As for what comes next, Harrison says it's wait and see until all the results from the election are tallied—with over 60,000 vote by mail ballots sent out this year the final count won't be complete until November 7.

"I'm not entirely sure how fast it's going to roll out." he said. "There's eight constituencies—four in Regina and four in Saskatoon—still up in the air over the vote by mail ballots. I'm not sure if much will be done until those

decisions are made with the ballots counted and winners declared. I'm not sure on the timeline yet as we wait with those and with the Covid-19 restrictions I'm not sure how fast things are going to happen."

In a regular election year there's plenty of campaigning and events for candidates to attend, but with the Covid-19 pandemic, this year is unlike any other. As a first-time candidate Harrison says his campaigning strategy was based around getting to every area within his constituency and meeting with as many people in as safe a manner as possible.

"It was a lot different because it was a lot more one-on-ones," he said. "Typically there would have been a coffee party at someone's house and they invite people from the constituency and things like that. That stuff just didn't happen because we didn't want people to have to put themselves in that place.

"It was more one-onones and doing as best you
can given the circumstances. That's where it's tougher, four weeks sounds like
a long time, but it went by
rather quickly and with
the long weekend being in
there it certainly cut down
on the time. I made it out
to each and every area at
least twice and sometimes
more, but people weren't
always home and everybody has their life to live
so I still have more people
to see and introduce myself
to, that's what'll be coming
in the weeks ahead."

Although Harrison's duties as MLA include being in Regina for the assembly of the Saskatchewan Legislature, he stresses the value of remaining a working member of the Cannington



Saskatchewan Party candidate Daryl Harrison won Cannington with over 70 per cent of the vote.

constituency and the importance of balancing his duties.

"I'll be commuting back and forth to Regina," he said. "There might be some

overnight stays, but for the most part I'll be staying here and I plan to maintain our cattle herd and continue with that. I will be feeling my way through it and making adjustments as I need since I'm new to this."

With a large constituency that covers nine towns and five villages, Harrison plans to be frequenting every area as much as he can when he's not in Regina. He believes a key role of an MI. A is to build a strong working relationship with municipal government to best serve the communities within the constituency.

within the constituency.
"It's my understanding
that Regina time is mostly
when the legislature's in
session," he said. "Other
than that I'll be out in the
constituency here and
I'll be out there from Fillmore to Gainsborough
and from Maryfield down
to Frobisher—it's quite a
big area so I'll do my best
to get out and about. I'm
committed to the towns,
villages, and RMs and I'd
like to maintain contact
face to face, as allowed, at
least once per year.

"I want to maintain relationships with the local governments and know what the issues and concerns are in each community because they vary from community to community."

Harrison may be new to the Cannington constituency for the Sask Party, but he understands just how meaningful it is to be part of a government that will be representing the people of Saskatchewan for the fourth straight time as a majority.

majority.
"When you sit back and you look and you have four straight majorities, Saskatchewan always looked at Alberta and the longtime government there and the way they've been able to keep going over the years," he said.

"Saskatchewan is now in that category and it's kind of new ground for Saskatchewan and it's incumbent on the Sask Party to keep in touch with the people of the province and not lose their contact, their input, and overall their support."









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Above left: Kellen Scott, a Grade 5 at MacLeod Elementary School casting his ballot. Right: Covid-19 protocol markers were placed on the floor to guide students at Mac donald School. Students set up the polling station and manned the voter registration lists and ballot boxes

How students voted in the three local ridings

By Victor van der Merwe Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Southeast Saskatchewan's three ridings, Cannington, Melville-Saltcoats and Moosomin were well represented in the CIVIX Student Vote Saskatchewan 2020 that happened

Moosomin

Of the 624 votes cast by students in the Moosomin riding, Steven Bonk of the Saskatchewan Party received 407 votes, making their seat safe with 65.22 per cent of the vote. Ken Burton and the NDP could only secure 19.07 per cent of the vote, but Marjorie Graham and the Saskatchewan Green Party only convinced 9.94 per cent of voting students to cast their vote for them and Frank Serfas of the PC Party of Saskatchewan had a poor showing of 5.77 per cent.

Broadview School votes

- Saskatchewan Party, 20
- NDP. 5
- Saskatchewan Green Party, 5
- PC Party of Saskatchewan, 2

Dr. Isman Elementary votesSaskatchewan Party, 27

- NDP. 16
- Saskatchewan Green Party, 4
- PC Party of Saskatchewan, 2

Grenfell Elementary Community School votes

- Saskatchewan Party, 40 NDP, 8
- Saskatchewan Green Party, 8
- PC Party of Saskatchewan, 6

Kennedy Langbank School votes • Saskatchewan Party, 9

- NDP. 4
- PC Party of Saskatchewan, 3 Saskatchewan Green Party, 0

- Kipling School votes
 Saskatchewan Party, 128
- NDP. 28
- Saskatchewan Green Party, 23
- PC Party of Saskatchewan, 11

MacLeod School votes

- Saskatchewan Party, 58
- NDP, 13
- Saskatchewan Green Party, 7 PC Party of Saskatchewan, 2

Rocanville School votes

- NDP, 8 Saskatchewan Party, 7
- Saskatchewan Green Party, 2
- PC Party of Saskatchewan, 1

Wapella School votes

- Saskatchewan Party, 21
- NDP 4
- Saskatchewan Green Party, 1 PC Party of Saskatchewan, 1

Whitewood School votes

- Saskatchewan Party, 97
- NDP, 33
- Saskatchewan Green Party, 12 PC Party of Saskatchewan, 8

Jamie Busche who teaches fourth and fifth grade over at

orenfell Elementary was very happy with how the day and events leading up to the vote played out.

"It went so good. We did it last year as well for the federal election. The kids were so engaged and very interested. They had lots of really good questions. We asked would you recommend it to other schools, and they all said yes," said Busche.

She was not at all surprised by the Sask Party win.
"It is a farming community and there are a lot of family
roots in the Sask Party," said Busche.
Kayla Czerwonka and her eighth grade social studies

Kayla Czerwonka and ner eigntu grade social statues class ran the show in Kipling.

"It was really awesome. The grade eight class was in charge of organizing the vote and they went around to classes and with COVID-19, we have to be very careful, so they wore their masks and gloves and they went out to classes and made sure that everyone from grade five to 12 was able to vote. They explained to everyone how to vote and went through the process of selecting the person on

the ballot and placing the ballot in the box as you normally would," said Czerwonka.

Principal Nathan Bromm's Rocanville School gave the NDP their only win as they received one vote more than the Sask Party.

the Sask Party. "We had two classes participate. We had our grade 7 and 8 classes, but we did some learning beforehand. We did some activities just learning about the election process. I teach the grade 8 class and part of the curriculum is learning about Canadian citizenship and identity and rights and responsibilities so, having the vote this year actually ties into that curriculum," said Bromm.

The narrow victory for the NDP in Rocanville does keep pace with the overall vote from student across the province. "If you look at the results from CIVIX you see that there

"If you look at the results from CIVIX you see that there are more NDP seats selected by the students in general than by adults in the actual election," said Bromm

Cannington

Saskatchewan Party's Daryl Harrison took 334 of the 570 votes cast by students securing him 58.60 per cent of the vote and a seat in government. Wes Smith gave the Buffalo Party its only showing in the Southeast with 20.18 per cent of the vote while Jaina Forrest and the Saskatchewan Green Party picked up 12.11 per cent and the NDP and Dianne Twietmeyer having their poorest showing in the region at 9.12 per cent of the vote.

Carievale Elementary votes • Saskatchewan Party, 37

- Buffalo Party, 21 Saskatchewan Green Party, 7

Carnduff Education Complex votes

- Saskatchewan Party, 109 Buffalo Party, 54
- Saskatchewan Green Party, 19 NDP, 19

Gordon F. Kells High School votes

- Saskatchewan Party, 87 Saskatchewan Green Party, 29
- NDP. 21
- Buffalo Party, 9

- Manor School votes
 Saskatchewan Party, 13
- Buffalo Party, 7
- NDP, 3
 - Saskatchewan Green Party, 2

Maryfield School votes

- . Saskatchewan Party, 14
- Buffalo Party, 12 Saskatchewan Green Party, 2
- NDP.0

Oxbow Prarie Horizons

- Saskatchewan Party, 23 Saskatchewan Green Party, 4

- Buffalo Party, 1

Redvers School votes

- Saskatchewan Party, 51 Buffalo Party, 11
- Saskatchewan Green Party, 6

Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, Darcie Howe who teaches social studies over at Gordon F Kells High School

felt it best to use the online voting option.

"Most of the time we do a regular election, but this year due to COVID-19 we decided to do the online thing. I did get some of my grade 10 students to make a video to show kids how they would've voted," said Howe.

The presentation included information on the different pasts validorses.

party platforms.

"They were the ones that took a look at all the parties and prepared something to show the rest of the school about what the parties had to say," said Howe.

Over at Oxbow Prairie Horizons, Carie Crossman who

Over at Oxbow Prairie Horizons, Carie Crossman who teaches grade eight social studies, had a small but passionate few kids cast their vote.

"It was good. I only did it with 35 students, we studied the election and then learned how to do it and we learned about the parties and I just did it with my classes I did not do it school-wide," said Crossman.

Carnduff Education Complex's Trevor Geiger saw this election as a way to teach students about their civic duty.

"We have done it for a couple of the past elections, provincial and federal. I think it is an important aspect for students to become aware of their responsibilities. We have the right to vote, but we also have the responsibility to utilize that vote," said Geiger.

Melville-Saltcoats

In the Melville-Saltcoats riding, 251 students cast ballots. 141 voted for Warren Kaeding and gave the Sask Party 56 per cent of the votes. The NDP and Bonnie Galenzoski only secured 23.90 per cent of the student vote while Jack Pow less of the Saskatchewan Green Party received 11.55 per cent of the vote and Trever Ratti of the PC Party of Saskatchewan only took 8.37 per cent of the vote.

Churchbridge Public School votes

- Saskatchewan Party, 13 NDP, 4
- PC Party of Saskatchewan, 1
- Saskatchewan Green Party, 0

Davidson School votes

- Saskatchewan Party, 24
- NDP, 20
- Saskatchewan Green Party, 7
- PC Party of Saskatchewan, 0

Grayson School votes

- Saskatchewan Party, 9
- NDP. 4
- Saskatchewan Green Party, 1 PC Party of Saskatchewan, 0

Langenburg High School votes • Saskatchewan Party, 11

- NDP, 3
- Saskatchewan Green Party, 0 PC Party of Saskatchewan, 0

Macdonald School votes

- Saskatchewan Party, 37 PC Party of Saskatchewan, 15
- Saskatchewan Green Party, 10

NDP, 7

- Saltcoats School votes
 Saskatchewan Party, 47
- NDP 22 Saskatchewan Green Party, 11

PC Party of Saskatchewan, 5

At Davidson School, Karielle Willner who ran the election said that the results are what se expected. "(The election) was different because of COVID-19, but

the results in the end were pretty typical based on how our school usually votes," said Willner. Almost all students at MacDonald School participated in some form of the election.

"We had grade three through nine participate in the actual student vote, but our grade one and two class also did their own version of student vote. They elected a class masor," said Karen Hovind.

Hovind feels that it is important to instill the habit of vot-

ing earl.
"The sooner we get students understanding how our government works and understanding the processes the more adults we will see take part in voting later," said Ho-

Grayson School's John Muir was excited that CIVIX chose a question that came from his school to add to the questions asked to the party leaders.

"CIVIX was asking for questions to give to the party lead-ers, and leaders sent out video responses and we were one of five questions that got picked out of the entire province,"

The question was related to health care. "How are you going to make healthcare." "How are you going to make healthcare accessible and affordable for everyone in all regions remote of city?" said

Langenburg High school's Fallon Prince had the grade 12 class vote.
"I did it with my grade 12 social studies class, it was awesome," said Prince

After the results came in, it did spark some conversation.
"We just went through the results today and compared it to the actual election and we had really awesome discussions," said Prince

The students did seem to grasp their responsibility in the

"One kid said that if there was to be any change, it is going to be with young people," said Prince.

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